

Demonstrations in East Germany continued to rise, forcing Eric Honecker to resign in October. On November 9, the Berlin Wall was breached.

But while Communist leaders in other countries saw the writing on the wall, authorities in Prague continued to believe they could somehow cling to power. Ironically, the regime's repressive tactics were part of its final undoing.

On November 17, 1989, significant student demonstrations were held in Prague. Human rights groups released videotapes of police and militia viciously beating the demonstrators and these tapes were rapidly and widely circulated through the underground. Shortly thereafter, VONS received credible information that a student demonstrator had been beaten to death. The alleged death so outraged Czechoslovak society that it triggered massive demonstrations. Within days, Czechoslovakia's Communist regime collapsed like a house of cards.

As it turned out, no one had actually been killed during the November 17 protests; the story of the student death had been concocted by the secret police to discredit VONS but was all too believable. As concisely stated by Mary Battiata, a reporter for the Washington Post, "... a half-baked secret police plan to discredit a couple of dissidents apparently boomeranged and turned a sputtering student protest into a national rebellion." On December 29, Vaclav Havel—who had been in prison just a few months earlier—was elected President of Czechoslovakia by the Federal Parliament.

Jan Patocka once wrote, "The real test of a man is not how well he plays the role he has invented for himself but how well he plays the role that destiny assigned to him." It seems that destiny had a particular role for Vaclav Havel, not one that he invented or envisioned for himself, but one that he has played with courage and grace, with dignity and honor. Today, we honor Vaclav Havel and the Charter 77 movement he helped to found.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN MEMORY OF ERNEST GALLO

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of the late Ernest Gallo, a true American success story who came from a humble beginning to head the world's largest winemaking company. Mr. Gallo passed away in the peaceful company of his family and loved ones at his home in Modesto, California on March 6, 2007. He was 97 years old.

The first son of Joseph and Susie Gallo, immigrants who hailed from Italy's renowned winemaking region of Piedmont, Ernest Gallo was born in Jackson, in the Sierra Nevada foothills region of California. Ernest and his younger brothers, Julio and Joe,

gained important insight into the winemaking business by working alongside their father in the family vineyard. As a precocious and driven 17-year-old boy, Ernest sold a railcar full of family grapes during a trip to Chicago for \$17,000, a considerable sum of money during those days. From that point forward, it was apparent that Ernest was a gifted and determined entrepreneur who was destined for great success in the winemaking business.

After his parents unexpectedly passed away, Ernest accepted the mantle of the head of the business and the family at the age of 24 and founded E. and J. Gallo Winery in 1933 using a \$5,000 loan from Ernest's mother-in-law and his brother Julio's entire savings of less than \$1,000. Throughout his stewardship of the winery that would become one of the world's most prolific and recognized winemaking companies, Ernest consistently demonstrated an unparalleled ability to produce affordable, popular, and high quality products.

A wine connoisseur in the truest sense of the word, Ernest was a perfectionist who left his imprint on nearly every aspect of the winemaking process; from overseeing production, to devising brilliant marketing plans, to regularly traveling across the country to make sure that wine displays were properly presented in markets. Simply put, Ernest was a consummate winemaker who was absolutely dedicated to honing and perfecting his craft.

Ernest Gallo has left behind a legacy of success and the well-deserved recognition as one of the leading figures of American winemaking. This son of California's Central Valley will be greatly missed.

Ernest Gallo was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 62 years, Amelia, and son, David. He is survived by his son, Joseph, and four grandchildren.●

HONORING LARRY NELSON

• Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I wish to honor in the RECORD of the Senate the induction of my friend and a wonderful Georgian, Larry Nelson of Marietta, to the World Golf Hall of Fame.

Larry was born on September 10, 1947, in Ft. Payne, AL, and was raised in Acworth, GA. Growing up, he preferred baseball and basketball. It wasn't until after he returned from military service in Vietnam that he actually swung a golf club. The first time he played he broke 100. Within 9 months of taking up the game in earnest, Larry broke 70.

In 1973, Larry successfully went through the PGA Tour Qualifying School, and his breakthrough came in 1979 when he won twice on the tour and finished second on the money list. In 1981, Larry won the PGA Championship at the Atlantic Athletic Club by four strokes over Fuzzy Zoeller. In 1983, he won his second major, the U.S. Open, at one of the toughest championship courses in the world, Oakmont Country

Club just outside of Pittsburgh. And in 1987, Larry repeated his victory in the PGA Championship with a playoff victory over Lanny Wadkins at PGA National Golf Club in Palm Beach Gardens, FL. In addition, he played on the U.S. Ryder Cup team in 1979, 1981, and 1987.

I have known Larry for almost 40 years. In fact, I sold him a house when he was first starting out. It is also a huge point of pride that I am a member of the Atlanta Country Club where Larry Nelson plays today. However, Larry is more than a terrific golfer. He is also a wonderful husband and father as well as a devout Christian.

It gives me a great deal of pleasure and it is a privilege to recognize on the floor of the U.S. Senate the contributions of my friend Larry Nelson. He is an inspiration to us all.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 2:48 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 342. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 555 Independence Street in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, as the "Rush Hudson Limbaugh, Sr. United States Courthouse".

H.R. 544. An act to designate the United States courthouse at South Federal Place in Santa Fe, New Mexico, as the "Santiago E. Campos United States Courthouse".

H.R. 584. An act to designate the Federal building located at 400 Maryland Avenue Southwest in the District of Columbia as the "Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building".

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

At 5:54 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 85. An act to provide for the establishment of centers to encourage demonstration and commercial application of advanced energy methods and technologies.

H.R. 1068. An act to amend the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991.

H.R. 1126. An act to reauthorize the Steel and Aluminum Energy Conservation and Technology Competitiveness Act of 1988.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 85. An act to provide for the establishment of centers to encourage demonstration and commercial application of advanced energy methods and technologies; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1068. An act to amend the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.